

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SP-02
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 0153

EO11652 GDS
TAGS PARM NATO MBFR
SUBJECT MBFR: SPC MEETING JANUARY 10: FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
OF DATA DISCUSSION

REF 76 STATE 248443 (DTG 061711Z OCT 76)

1. AT THE JANUARY 10 SPC MEETING ON AHG REQUEST
FOR NEW GUIDANCE, CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) SAID THAT
SOONER OR LATER THE SPC WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER THE FURTHER
DEVELOPMENT OF THE DATA DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST.
IT MIGHT BE PREMATURE TO COMMENT AT THIS MEETING, BUT
THE CANADIANS WANT TO PUT DOWN A MARKER ABOUT THE NEED
TO ADDRESS THIS SUBJECT. CANADIAN REP CITED ONE EXAMPLE
OF AN AREA FOR DISCUSSION: HOW FAR WE COULD GO WITH
THE EAST IN DESCRIBING OUR COUNTING RULES BEFORE THERE
ARE ADVERSE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS. HIS AUTHORI-
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TIES HAD IN MIND THE QUESTION OF THE EXTENT TO
WHICH THE AHG COULD DESCRIBE THE WAYS VARIOUS
ALLIES CALCULATE THEIR FORCE STRENGTHS BEFORE THERE
ARE ADVERSE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS. THE SPC MIGHT
TASK THE MBFR WORKING GROUP TO DO A STUDY ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. WE MENTIONED LATER TO CANADIAN REP THE US PREF-
ERENCE NOT TO DISCUSS INCONSISTENCIES IN WESTERN
MANPOWER REPORTING WITH THE OTHER SIDE (PARA 4, REFTEL).
WE QUESTIONED HOW DISCUSSING SUCH INCONSISTENCIES WITH

THE OTHER SIDE WOULD ADVANCE OUR NEGOTIATING GOALS.

3. COMMENT: CANADA HAS NOW RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHAT FURTHER NAC GUIDANCE THE AHG MIGHT NEED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF DATA DISCUSSION. THIS IS OF COURSE AN ISSUE THE US HAS IN THE PAST NOT WANTED TO DISCUSS IN THE ABSTRACT, IN ADVANCE OF SERIOUS DATA DISCUSSION WITH THE EAST. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY GENERAL COMMENT WASHINGTON HAS, IN RESPONSE TO CANADIAN SUGGESTION, AS TO THE TIMELINESS OF SPC DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE WASHINGTON COMMENT ON THE SPECIFIC CANADIAN SUGGESTION OF SG SGUDY ON THE SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF DISCUSSING WITH THE OTHER SIDE THE VARIOUS WAYS DIFFERENT ALLIES CALCULATE THEIR FORCE STRENGTHS. WE ARE UNAWARE OF SECURITY IMPLICATIONS, ALTHOUGH IT PROBABLY WOULD DO NO HARM TO ESTABLISH THIS THROUGH A STUDY. HOWEVER SUCH A STUDY WOULD BE ACADEMIC IF THE ALLIES AGREE, FOR REASONS OTHER THAN SECURITY, NOT TO DISCUSS THE DIFFERENT METHODS WITH THE OTHER SIDE, BUT SIMPLY TO DESCRIBE THE NATO FIGURES AS "ACTUAL STRENGTHS." END COMMENT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED, IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 17,;

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GUIDANCE IN LIGHT OF COMMENT IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH. STRAUZ-HUPE

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